GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7483
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002
INSPECTION CHARGES BY LPG AGENCIES
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the LPG agencies in Delhi are charging Rs. 25/- as inspection charges and forcing the customers to change the parts like pin, tubes etc. at high prices ;

(b) if so, the facts thereof ; (

(c) whether the government are also aware that all such charges are being made under the pretext of direction from IOCL and without any authentic cash receipt from the authorised LPG dealers, the charges are made in the name of fictitious companies to avoid raids and detection in case of defaults;

(d) if so, the facts thereof ; and

(e) the penal measures likely to be taken against such defaulting agencies ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (e) : LPG distributors are under instructions from the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to do mandatory inspection of LPG equipments at the customer`s premises once in two years for purpose of safety. For this purpose, they are authorised to collect Rs. 25/- as inspection charges. Further, consumers are free to purchase the ISI mark hot plate and other spare parts from any source as per their choice. The complaints received from consumers regarding forced sale of hot plates and other spare parts etc are investigated by OMCs and on the establishment of a complaint, action against the erring LPG distributor is taken in terms of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2001.